GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:274
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2006
GAS HYDRATES RESOURCES
Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made any assessment regarding gas hydrates reserves in the Krishna-Godavari Basin, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Gulf of Kutch and Gulf of Mannar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is facing any problems and technical difficulties in exploring gas hydrates located 700m below the seabed; and

(d) if so, the steps taken or being taken by the Government in exploring oil and gas from these locations?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (d) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 274 by Shri Iqbal Ahmed Saradgi to be answered on 9th March, 2006 regarding gas hydrates resources.

(a) & (b): No reserves estimate has been made by the Government for gas hydrates. However, Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH) has identified the presence of gas hydrates in Krishna-Godavari basin, Mahanadi basin, Kerala Konkan basin and Andaman offshore areas.

(c) & (d): World over the Exploration and exploitation of gas hydrates is at Research & Development (R&D) stage. Government of India has formulated a National Gas Hydrates Programme (NGHP) for exploration and development of the gas hydrate resources of the country. Under NGHP, DGH has taken services from Integrated Ocean Drilling Programme (IODP), USA for collection of core samples and other geo-scientific data. The drilling and coring programme for gas hydrates is likely to commence in April, 2006 in Krishna-Godavari, Mahanadi and Kerala Konkan basins and Andaman offshore areas. This study will be useful for resource estimation of gas hydrates in India.